

Remarks

Claims 1-24 are pending for the Examiner's consideration, including amended claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 12, 16 and 17 and new claim 24. No new matter has been introduced.

Prior Art Rejections

Claims 1-7, 12-15 and 17-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,602,607 (Balsley). Claims 1, 4-12, 15-17 and 20-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by European Reference No. 0251159 (Schleiermacher). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Balsley fails to disclose or suggest the claimed cylinder head which includes an *engagement surface* adapted to engage a *rocker box*. See pg. 6, l. 25 to pg. 7, l. 5 of the as-filed specification (describing a rocker box 24 according to one embodiment of the present invention). Instead, Balsley discloses a cylinder head 20 wherein "rocker arms 24 are mounted on an upper portion of the cylinder head enclosed by a valve cover 30 to define a rocker chamber 31." Balsley, col. 2, ll. 56-59. In other words, the rocker arms 24 in Balsley are not provided in a "rocker box" that "engages" the "cylinder head" as claimed because the rocker arms 24 in Balsley are provided *in the cylinder head 20* itself.

Schleiermacher similarly fails to disclose or suggest the claimed cylinder head. Instead, as shown in Figure 6, Schleiermacher is yet another example of an engine lacking a separate rocker box with a corresponding engagement surface on the cylinder head. Thus, Schleiermacher also fails to anticipate the presently claimed invention.

Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is solicited.

New Claim 24

New claim 24 has been added to more fully recite features of the present invention. Support for claim 24 can be found, for example, in original claim 17. Claim 24 is believed to be allowable for similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 17. Specifically, the cited prior art fails to disclose or suggest a cylinder head including means for engaging a rocker box. Allowance of claim 24 is solicited.



Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. If the Examiner does not agree, then a personal or telephonic interview is respectfully requested to discuss any remaining issues so as to expedite the eventual allowance of the claims.

A Petition for Extension of Time is submitted concurrently herewith. Should any additional fees be required, please charge such fees to Steptoe & Johnson LLP Deposit Account No. 19-4293.

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Respectfully Submitted,

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP
1330 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20036-1795
(202) 429-3000

Daniel L. Girdwood
Registration No. 52,947